

POE

4. [From *poches*, a pocket.] To plunder by stealth. So shameless, so abandoned are their ways, They *poch* Parnassus, and lay claim for praise. Garth.  
To *POACH*. *v. n.* [from *poches*, a bag, Fr.]  
1. To steal game; to carry off game privately in a bag. In the schools.  
They *poch* for sense, and hunt for idle rules. Oldham.  
2. To be damp. A cant word.  
Chalky and clay lands burn in hot weather, chap in summer, and *poch* in winter. Mortimer's Husbandry.  
*POACHARD*. *n. f.* A kind of water fowl.  
*POACHER*. *n. f.* [from *poch*.] One who steals game. You old *poachers* have such a way with you, that all at once the business is done. More's Foundling.  
*POACHINESS*. *n. f.* [from *pochy*.] Marshiness; dampness. A cant word.  
The valleys because of the *poachiness* they keep forgrafs. Mort.  
*POACHY*. *adj.* Damp; marshy. A cant word.  
What uplands you design for mowing, shut up the beginning of February; but marsh lands lay not up till April, except your marshes be very *poachy*. Mortimer's Husbandry.  
*POCK*. *n. f.* [from *pox*.] A pustule raised by the smallpox.  
*POCKET*. *n. f.* [pocca, Saxon; *pochet*, Fr.] The small bag inserted into cloaths.  
Here's a letter  
Found in the pocket of the slain Roderigo. Shakesp.  
Whilst one hand exalts the blow,  
And on the earth extends the foe;  
T'other would take it wondrous ill,  
If in your pocket he lay still.  
As he was seldom without medals in his pocket, he would often shew us the same face on an old coin, that we saw in the statue. Addison on Ancient Medals.  
To *POCKET*. *v. a.* [pocheter, Fr. from the noun.]  
1. To put in the pocket.  
Bless'd paper-credit!  
Gold, imp'd with this, can compass hardest things,  
Can pocket states, or fetch or carry kings. Pope.  
2. To *POCKET UP*. A proverbial form that denotes the doing or taking any thing clandestinely.  
If thy pocket were enriched with any other injuries but these, I am a villain; and yet you will stand to it, you will not pocket up wrongs. Shakesp. Henry IV.  
He lays his claim  
To half the profit, half the fame,  
And helps to pocket up the game. Prior.  
*POCKETBOOK*. *n. f.* [pocket and book.] A paper book carried in the pocket for hasty notes.  
Licinius let out the offals of his meat to interest, and kept a register of such debtors in his pocketbook. Arbuthnot.  
Note down the matters of doubt in some pocketbook, and take the first opportunity to get them resolved. Watts.  
*POCKETGLASS*. *n. f.* [pocket and glass.] Portable looking-glass.  
Powder and pocketglass, and beaus. Prior.  
And vanity with pocketglass,  
And impudence with front of brass. Swift's Miscel.  
*POCKHOLE*. *n. f.* [pock and hole.] Pit or scar made by the smallpox.  
Are these but warts and pockholes in the face  
O' th' earth? Donne.  
*POCKINESS*. *n. f.* [from *pocky*.] The state of being pocky.  
*POCKY*. *n. f.* *adj.* [from *pox*.] Infected with the pox.  
My father's love lies thus in my bones; I might have loved all the pocky whores in Persia, and have felt it less in my bones. Denham's Sophy.  
*POCULENT*. *adj.* [poculum, Lat.] Fit for drink.  
Some of these herbs, which are not eculent, are notwithstanding *poculent*; as hops and broom. Bacon.  
*POD*. *n. f.* [pode, boede, Dutch, a little house.] The capsule of legumes; the case of seeds.  
To raise tulips, save the seeds which are ripe, when the pods begin to open at the top, which cut off with the stalks from the roots, and keep the pods upright, that the seed do not fall out. Mortimer's Husbandry.  
*PODAGRICAL*. *adj.* [podagrus, podagrus, Lat.]  
1. Afflicted with the gout.  
From a magneical activity must be made out, that a loadstone, held in the hand of one that is *podagrical*, doth either cure or give great ease in the gout. Brown's Vulgar Errors.  
2. Gouty; relating to the gout.  
*PODDER*. *n. f.* [from *pod*.] A gatherer of peasecods, beans and other pulse. Dict.  
*PODGE*. *n. f.* a puddle; a plash. Skinner.  
*POEM*. *n. f.* [poema, Lat. *poëma*.] The work of a poet; a metrical composition.  
A poem is not alone any work, or composition of the poets in many or few verses; but even one alone verse sometimes makes a perfect poem. Benj. Johnson.  
The lady Anne of Bretagne, passing through the presence of France, and espousing Chartier, a famous poet, fast asleep, kissing him, said, we must honour the mouth whence so many golden poems have proceeded. Peacham on Poetry.  
To you the promis'd poem I will pay. Dryden.

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- POESY*. *n. f.* [poësis, Fr. *poësis*, Lat. *poësis*.]  
1. The art of writing poems.  
A poem is the work of the poet; *poësy* is his skill or craft of making; the very fiction itself, the reason or form of the work.  
How far have we  
Prophan'd thy heav'nly gift of *poësy*?  
Made prostitute and profligate the muse,  
Whose harmony was first ordain'd above  
For tongues of angels. Dryden.  
2. Poem; metrical composition; poetry.  
Mufick and *poësy* vie to quicken you.  
There is an hymn, for they have excellent *poësy*; the subject is always the praises of Adam, Noah and Abraham, concluding ever with a thanksgiving for the nativity of our Saviour. Bacon's New Atlantis.  
They apprehend a veritable history in an emblem or piece of christian *poësy*. Brown's Vulgar Errors.  
3. A short conceit engraven on a ring or other thing.  
A paltry ring, whose *poësy* was,  
For all the world like cutler's poetry  
Upon a knife; love me, and leave me not. Shakesp.  
*POET*. *n. f.* [poete, Fr. *poeta*, Lat. *poëta*.] An inventor; an author of fiction; a writer of poems; one who writes in measure.  
The poet's eye in a fine frenzy rowling,  
Doth glance from heav'n to earth, from earth to heav'n;  
And, as imagination bodies forth  
The forms of things unknown, the poet's pen  
Turns them to shape, and gives to ev'ry thing  
A local habitation and a name. Shakesp.  
Our poet ape, who would be thought the chief,  
His works become the frippery of wits,  
From brocade he is grown to bold a thief,  
While we the robb'd despise, and pity it. B. Johnson.  
'Tis not vain or fabulous  
What the sage poets taught by the heav'nly muse  
Story'd of old in high immortal verse,  
Of dire chimeras and enchanted isles.  
A poet is a maker, as the word signifies; and he who cannot make, that is invent, hath his name for nothing. Dryden.  
*POETASTER*. *n. f.* [Latin.] A vile petty poet.  
Let no poetaster command or intreat  
Another extempore verses to make. Benj. Johnson.  
Begin not as th' old poetaster did,  
Troy's famous war, and Priam's fate I sing. Roscommon.  
Horace hath expos'd those trifling poetasters, that spend themselves in glaring descriptions, and sewing here and there some cloth of gold on their sackcloth. Feltan.  
*POETESS*. *n. f.* [from *poet*; *poëtria*, Lat.] A she poet.  
*POETICAL*. *adj.* [poëticus; *poëticus*, Fr. *poëticus*, Lat.] Express'd in poetry; pertaining to poetry; suitable to poetry.  
Would the gods had made you poetical.  
I do not know what poetical is.  
The truest poetry is most feigning. Shakesp.  
With courage guard, and beauty warm our age,  
And lovers fill with like poetick rage. Waller.  
The moral of that poetical fiction, that the uppermost link of all the series of subordinate causes is fastened to Jupiter's chair, signifies that almighty God governs and directs subordinate causes and effects. Hale.  
Neither is it enough to give his author's sense in good English, in poetical expressions and in musical numbers. Dryden.  
The muse saw it upward rise,  
Though mark'd by none but quick poetick eyes. Pope.  
I alone can inspire the poetical crowd. Swift.  
*POETICALLY*. *adv.* [from *poetical*.] With the qualities of poetry; by the fiction of poetry.  
The critics have concluded, that the manners of the heroes are poetically good, if of a piece. Dryden.  
The many rocks, in the passage between Greece and the bottom of Pontus, are poetically converted into those fiery bulls. Raleigh.  
To *POETIZE*. *v. n.* [poetizer, Fr. from *poet*.] To write like a poet.  
I verify the truth, not poetize. Donne.  
Virgil, speaking of Turnus and his great strength, thus poetizes. Hakewill.  
*POETRESS*. *n. f.* [from *poetria*, Lat. whence *poëtridas* *picas* in *Perseus*.] A she poet.  
Most peerless poetress,  
The true Pandora of all heavenly graces. Spranger.  
*POETRY*. *n. f.* [poëtria; from *poet*.]  
1. Metrical composition; the art or practice of writing poems.  
Strike the best invention dead,  
Till baffled poetry hangs down the head. Cleveland.  
Although in poetry it be necessary that the unities of time, place and action should be explained, there is still something that gives a greatness of mind to the reader, which few of the critics have considered. Addison's Spectator, N° 409.  
2. Poems; poetical pieces.  
She taketh most delight  
In musick, instruments and poetry. Shakesp.  
*POIGNANCY*.

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- POIGNANCY*. *n. f.* [from *poignant*.]  
1. The power of stimulating the palate; sharpness.  
I sat quietly down at my morfel, adding only a principle of hatred to all succeeding measures by way of sauce; and one point of conduct in the dutchess's life added much poignancy to it. Swift.  
2. The power of irritation; asperity.  
*POIGNANT*. *adj.* [poignant, Fr.]  
1. Sharp; stimulating the palate.  
No poignant sauce she knew, nor costly treat,  
Her hunger gave a relish to her meat. Dryden.  
The studious man, whose will was never determined to poignant sauces and delicious wine, is, by hunger and thirst, determined to eating and drinking. Locke.  
2. Severe; piercing; painful.  
If God makes use of some poignant disgrace to let out the poisonous vapour, is not the mercy greater than the severity of the cure? South's Sermons.  
Full three long hours his tender body did sustain  
Most exquisite and poignant pain. Norris's Miscel.  
3. Irritating; fatigal; keen.  
*POINT*. *n. f.* [pointe, point, French.]  
1. The sharp end of any instrument.  
The thorny point  
Of bare distress hath ta'en from me the shew  
Of smooth fidelity. Shakesp. As You like it.  
That bright beam, whose point now rais'd,  
Bore him slope downward. Milton.  
A pyramid reverend may stand for a while upon its point, if balanced by admirable skill. Temple's Miscellanies.  
Doubts if he wielded not a wooden spear  
Without a point; he look'd, the point was there. Dryden.  
2. A string with a tag.  
If your son have not the day,  
For a stolen point I'll give my barony. Shakesp.  
He hath ribbands of all colours; points more than all the lawyers can learnedly handle. Shakesp.  
I am resolv'd on two points;  
That if one break, the other will hold;  
Or if both break, your gaskins fall. Shakesp.  
King James was wont to say, that the duke of Buckingham had given him a groom of his bed-chamber, who could not trust his points. Clarendon.  
3. Headland; promontory.  
I don't see why Virgil has given the epithet of *Alta* to *Prochita*, which is much lower than *Ichia*, and all the points of land that lie within its neighbourhood. Addison.  
4. A sting of an epigram; a sentence terminated with some remarkable turn of words or thought.  
He taxes Lucan, who crowded sentences together, and was too full of points. Dryden on Herick Plays.  
5. Studious to please the genius of the times,  
With periods, points and tropes he flurs his crimes;  
He robb'd not, but he borrow'd from the poor. Dryden.  
Times corrupt, and nature ill inclin'd,  
Produce'd the point that left a sting behind. Pope.  
5. An indivisible part of space.  
We sometimes speak of space, or do suppose a point in it at such a distance from any part of the universe. Locke.  
6. An indivisible part of time; a moment.  
Then neither from eternity before,  
Nor from the time, when time's first point begun,  
Made he all souls. Davies.  
7. A small space.  
On one small point of land,  
Weary'd, uncertain and amaz'd, we stand. Prior.  
8. Punctilio; nicety.  
Shalt thou dispute  
With God the points of liberty, who made  
Thee what thou art. Milton's Par. Lost, b. v.  
9. Part required of time or space; critical moment; exact place.  
How oft, when men are at the point of death,  
Have they been merry? which their keepers call  
A lightning before death. Shakesp. Romeo and Juliet.  
Esaú said, behold I am at the point to die; and what profit shall this bright day do? Gen. xxx. 32.  
Democritus, spent with age, and just at the point of death, called for loaves of new bread, and with the steam under his nose, prolonged his life till a feast was past. Temple.  
They follow nature in their desires, carrying them no farther than the directs, and leaving off at the point, at which excess would grow troublesome. Aterbury's Sermons.  
10. Degree; state.  
The highest point outward things can bring one unto, is the contentment of the mind, with which no estate is miserable. Sidney, b. i.  
In a commonwealth, the wealth of the country is so equally distributed, that most of the community are at their ease, though few are placed in extraordinary points of splendor. Addison on the State of the War.  
11. Note of distinction in writing; a stop.  
12. A spot; a part of a surface divided by spots; division by

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- marks, into which any thing is distinguished in a circle or other plane: as, at tables the ace or file point.  
13. One of the degrees into which the circumference of the horizon, and the mariner's compass is divided.  
Carve out dial's point by point, Shakesp.  
Thereby to see the minutes how they run. Swift.  
There arose strong winds from the South, with a point east, which carried us up. Bacon's New Atlantis.  
A seaman, coming before the judges of the admiralty for admittance into an office of a ship, was by one of the judges much lighted; the judge telling him, that he believed he could not say the points of his compass. Bacon.  
Vapours fir'd flew the mariner  
From what point of his compass to beware  
Impetuous winds. Milton's Par. Lost, b. iv.  
If you tempt her, the wind of fortune  
May come about, and take another point, Denham.  
And blast your glories.  
At certain periods stars resume their place,  
From the same point of heav'n their course advance. Dryden.  
14. Particular place to which any thing is directed.  
East and West are but respective and mutable points, according unto different longitudes or distant parts of habitation. Brown's Vulgar Errors.  
Let the part, which produces another part, be more strong than that which it produces; and let the whole be seen by one point of light. Dryden's Dufresnoy.  
The poet intended to set the character of Arete in a fair point of light. Broome.  
15. Respect; regard.  
A figure like your father,  
Arm'd at all points exactly cap-a-pe,  
Appears before them. Shakesp. Hamlet.  
A war upon the Turk is more worthy than upon any other Gentiles, in point of religion and in point of honour. Bacon.  
He had a moment's right in point of time;  
Had I seen first, then his had been the crime. Dryden.  
With the history of Moses, no book in the world in point of antiquity can contend. Tillotson's Sermons.  
Men would often see, what a small pittance of reason is mixed with those huffing opinions they are swelled with, with which they are so armed at all points, and with which they so confidently lay about them. Locke.  
I have extracted out of that pamphlet a few of those notorious falsehoods, in point of fact and reasoning. Swift.  
16. An aim; the act of aiming or striking.  
What a point your falcon made, Shakesp.  
And what a pitch the flew above the rest.  
17. The particular thing required.  
You gain your point, if your industrious art  
Can make unusual words easy. Roscommon.  
There is no creature so contemptible, but, by resolution, may gain his point. L'Estrange.  
18. Particular; instance; example.  
I'll hear him his confessions justify,  
And point by point the treasons of his master  
He shall again relate. Shakesp. Henry VIII.  
Thou shalt be as free  
As mountain winds; but then exactly do  
All points of my command. Shakesp. Tempest.  
His majesty should make a peace, or turn the war directly upon such points, as may engage the nation in the support of it. Temple.  
He warn'd in dreams, his murder did foretel,  
From point to point, as after it befel. Dryden.  
This letter is, in every point, an admirable pattern of the present polite way of writing. Swift.  
19. A single position; a single assertion; a single part of a complicated question; a single part of any whole.  
Another vows the fame;  
A third t' a point more near the matter draws. Daniel.  
Strange point and new!  
Doctrine which would know whence learn'd. Milton.  
Stanilaus endeavours to establish the duodeuple proportion, by comparing scripture together with Josephus: but they will hardly prove his point. Arbuthnot on Coins.  
There is no point wherein I have so much laboured, as that of improving and polishing all parts of conversation between persons of quality. Swift.  
The glois produceth instances that are neither pertinent, nor prove the point. Baker's Reflections on Learning.  
20. A note; a tune.  
You, my lord archbishop,  
Whose white investments figure innocence,  
Wherefore do you so ill translate yourself  
Into the harsh and boist'rous tongue of war?  
Turning your tongue divine  
To a loud trumpet, and a point of war. Shakesp.  
21. Pointblank; directly: as, an arrow is shot to the point-blank or white mark.  
This boy will carry a letter twenty mile, as easy as a cannon will shoot pointblank twelve score. Shakesp.  
The